

Order of Worship for Tulsa Resist Harm Worship Service
January 5, 2020 5:30 p.m.

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

(Similar services with shared liturgy will also be held in
Oklahoma City at Mosaic UMC and in Lawton, OK at St. Paul's UMC)

PROCESSIONAL:

We Resist

Mark Miller

(Refrain)

We resist, we refuse to let hatred in!

We rise up; we won't back down!

We're in this till the end!

(Bridge)

Pray for your enemies!

Welcome the stranger!

Show love to your neighbor!

We're in this till the end!

WELCOME:

ANTHEM: *In This Very Room*

CALL TO WORSHIP (written by Rev. Jeannie Himes)

One: In the season of remembering the Magi, who represent the belief that Christ came for the wide diversity of people, we gather. We are of varying genders and gender identities, our families of varying shapes, our orientations all within God's loving embrace.

ALL: We are honoring the diversity that is the church today; we are honoring love that is love that is love that is love.

One: We stand together, pushing against those who exclude and reject. We stand united in the belief that God's love is all-encompassing. We stand as one as we speak up for what is just.

ALL: In this place, on this day, everyone is welcome, included, embraced, cherished.

OPENING HYMN: Once to Every Soul and Nation (PDF attached)

WITNESS/SERMON

SONG:

If I Had a Hammer (words adapted for more inclusion)
Pete Seeger

*If I had a hammer, I'd hammer in the morning,
I'd hammer in the evening all over this land
I'd hammer out danger; I'd hammer out a warning.
I'd hammer out love between all people everywhere
All over this land.*

*If I had a bell....
If I had a song....*

*Well I got a hammer, and I got a bell,
And I got a song to sing all over this land.
It's the hammer of Justice; It's the bell of Freedom.
It's the song about Love between all people everywhere
All over this land.*

LITANY OF CONFESSION AND LAMENT (written by Rev. Jeannie Himes)

Divine presence among us:

We lament that there is a great chasm in our church, as well as in our world. It is painful to see people we have known, those we have cared about, even deeply, standing on the side of exclusion. It hurts to see people causing harm with their beliefs. We ache for a day that this is not so.

We confess that we see those who oppose and oppress us as enemies, hopelessly unenlightened. We confess that when people harm us, we want to harm them back. But these are your children too, and your light falls upon us all. May the day come when we will regard each other with kindness, even in the midst of disagreement. Help us as we work for such a day, a day in which the arc of the moral universe bends toward justice.

We lament that our church is slow to open hearts, and open minds, and open all doors. We lament that there are leaders who want to destroy our beloved church in the name of exclusion. That is not your way, not your will. That is not the love that Christ came to teach.

Help us move toward seeing that there is always hope that change can come, for all your people.

We are people of the not yet, but our time is now....

COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving (written by Rev. Dr. Carol Cook Moore)

The Lord be with you-
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts-
We lift them up to the Lord.

Give thanks to the Lord our God.
It's right and good to give our thanks and praise!

Blessed are you God of all creation-
You formed us in your image and breathed life into us.
When we forget that you are God- you wait patiently for us to remember.
The stars remind us that we are but a grain of sand in your hands.
The sun reminds us that your Son is our Light, in him there is no darkness.
With all creation and heaven's company we sing to you with praise and glory:

Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blesses is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you and blessed is Jesus who came to heal, to find, to restore your broken world.
He healed the sick; ate with the outcast and condemned; and lifted up the oppressed.
By his baptism, suffering, death and resurrection you gave birth to your church and delivered us from sin and death.
By your stripes, we are healed. By your death we know life that rises from the grave.
We remember the night he was betrayed,
How he took the bread of the table, lifted it up, gave thanks, broke it and said to his followers-
Take and eat this bread. It is my body, given for you. Remember. Remember me.
After the meal he took their cup, lifted it up, blessed it and passed it among them and said-
Drink from this cup. This is the cup of the New Covenant. Remember. Remember me.

We remember his sacrifice for us and we offer the sacrifice of our praise as we proclaim the mystery of faith—

Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again!

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on this bread and wine. Fill us with your grace as we eat and drink. Knit us together into your wounded, healing body- redeemed by your love.
As we rise from this table fill us with conviction of the Saints and Martyrs to live the love that perseveres, to demand the justice that has been denied, and to boldly proclaim your kingdom is the kingdom for all your people. Through your Son Jesus Christ, in your Holy Church by the power of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, now and forever. Amen.

And now, as children of God- each one of us- we are bold to pray (The Lord's Prayer)

As people return to their seats, they may use this time to write a postcard to the Bishop which will be brought to the altar during the last hymn. (postcards will be provided)

WESLEY'S COVENANT PRAYER, Revised from *resistharm.com*

Adapted by Jeremy Smith

I am not my own self-made, self-reliant human being.
In truth, O God, I am Yours.
Make me into what You will.
Make me a neighbor with those whom You will.
Guide me on the easy path for You.
Guide me on the rocky road for You.
Whether I am to step up for You or step aside for You;
Whether I am to be lifted high for You or brought low for You;
Whether I become full or empty, with all things or with nothing;
I give all that I have and all that I am for You.
So be it.
And may I always remember that you, O God, and I belong to each other. Amen.

SONG (Postcards are brought forward as we sing)

We Are a Gentle Angry People

Holly Near

We are a gentle, angry people,
and we are singing, singing for our lives. (x2)

We are a justice-seeking people....
We are young and old together....
We are a land of many colors....
We are queer and straight together....
We are all in this together....

BENEDICTION:

CLOSING CHORUS (The complete song will be sung as a duet during Communion)

In the Time of the Snow, refrain

Trad. Irish/John Bell/Mary Louise Bringle

*When the earth gleams so whitely,
May we shine just as brightly,
For the child of God Almighty:
In the time of the snow.*

After the service people are invited to go to our “Word Wall” and write a word or phrase of Resistance. We will take these words and phrases and make a Wordle as a visual graphic of our time together.